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International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

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Agenda item 9
Adoption of the final outcomes of the International Meeting

Draft report of the Main Committee

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Draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

1. At its __ meeting, on __ January, the Main Committee approved the following changes to the text of the draft strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and recommended them to the International Meeting for adoption.

2. Paragraphs 16, 16 bis, 16 ter and 17 were replaced by the following:

16. The adverse effects of climate change and sea-level rise present significant risks to the sustainable development of small island developing States, and the long-term effects of climate change may threaten the very existence of some small island developing States. Based on the report of the Secretary-General and other available data, small island developing States believe that they are already experiencing major adverse effects of climate change. Adaptation to adverse impacts of climate change and sea-level rise remains a major priority for small island developing States.

16.bis The international community reaffirms its commitment to achieving, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention's ultimate objective of stabilization of concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system, within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, ensure that food production is not threatened and enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner. Parties that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol strongly urge all States that have not done so to ratify it in a timely manner.

16.ter In the context of paragraphs 16 and 16 bis, the international community should:

(a) Fully implement the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and further promote international cooperation on climate change;

(b) Continue to take, in accordance with the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, as applicable, steps to address climate change, including through: adaptation and mitigation in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities; and the effective implementation of the Kyoto Protocol by those countries that have ratified it;

(c) Promote increased energy efficiency and development and use of renewable energy as a matter of priority, as well as advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies, inter alia, through public and/or private partnerships, market-oriented approaches, as well as supportive public policies and international cooperation and support their use in small island developing States, where appropriate, and in accordance with their national policies;

(d) Implement the Buenos Aires Programme of Work on Adaptation and Response Measures, in particular those elements that are relevant to small island developing States;

(e) Work to facilitate and promote the development, transfer and dissemination to small island developing States of appropriate technologies and practices to address climate change;

(f) Build and enhance scientific and technological capabilities, including in small island developing States, inter alia, through continuing support to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for the exchange of scientific information and data, including where relevant to small island developing States;

(g) Enhance the implementation of national, regional and international strategies to monitor the Earth's atmosphere, including, as appropriate, strategies for integrated observations, inter alia, with the cooperation of relevant international organizations, and work with small island developing States to strengthen their involvement in monitoring and observing systems and enhance their access to and use of information.

17. Small island developing States, with the necessary support of the international community, including through the facilitation and improvement of access to existing resources and, where appropriate, through allocation of dedicated financial resources, will, as an integral component of their national sustainable development strategies, where appropriate, develop and implement national adaptation strategies and facilitate regional and interregional cooperation, including within the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

3. Paragraph 27 was replaced by the following:

27. Small island developing States continue to face water management and water access challenges, caused in part by deficiencies in water availability, water catchment and storage, pollution of water resources, saline intrusion (which may be exacerbated, inter alia, by sea-level rise, unsustainable management of water resources and climate variability and climate change) and leakage in the delivery system. Sustained urban water supply and

sanitation systems are constrained by a lack of human, institutional and financial resources. The access to safe drinking water, the provision of sanitation and the promotion of hygiene are the foundations of human dignity, public health and economic and social development and are among the priorities for small island developing States.